

Message Text

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SUBJECT: CONTINUED SPECULATION ABOUT NICULESCU-MIZIL

REF: (A) BUCHAREST 1599; (B) BUCHAREST 1715

1. RUMORS CONTINUE FLOATING AMONG BOTH ROMANIANS AND DIPLOMATIC CORPS ABOUT POSSIBLE FURTHER DOWNGRADING OF EDUCATION MINISTER PAUL NICULESCU-MIZIL, WHO HAS ALREADY BEEN ELIMINATED FROM PARTY'S TOP LEADERSHIP BODY IN MARCH PLENUM ORGANIZATIONAL REALIGNMENT.
2. PREVALENT OPINION IS THAT HE WILL NOT NOW REMAIN AS HEAD OF ANY SUPER-MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE TO BE CREATED (REF A) BUT INSTEAD WILL GO TO PROVINCES AS COUNTY FIRST SECRETARY, LIKE TROFIN. THE SLIDE WOULD BE CLOAKED WITH RESPECTABILITY BEFITTING ONETIME MEMBER OF TOP PARTY INNER CIRCLE. GALATI, CRAIOVA, AND TELEORMAN COUNTIES HAVE BEEN MENTIONED AS POSSIBLE DESTINATION.

3. MEANWHILE, CEAUSESCU'S CRITICISM APRIL 27 OF ROMANIAN HIGHER EDUCATION COULD BE ANOTHER SLAP AT MIZIL. IN SPEECH TO NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND

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TECHNOLOGY PLENUM, CEAUSESCU SPOKE OF AT LAST "BRING-

ING ORDER" TO THIS SECTOR BECAUSE OF "CERTAIN SHORT-COMINGS."

4. CONCURRENTLY, ROMANIAN SOCIAL SCIENTISTS SAY PRIVATELY THAT CENTRALIZING OVERHAUL IN THEIR SPERE (POSSIBLY RELATED TO MIN ED MEASURES) IS NOW UNDER REACTIVATED DISCUSSION. FOR EXAMPLE, ACADEMY OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES MAY BE ABOLISHED, WITH ITS COMPONENTS MESHING WITH UNIVERSITY FACULTIES OR RECTORATES, (THAT IS, NEW MIN ED), OR BEING REDUCED IN FORCE OR ELIMINATED UNDER SLOGAN OF "CONCENTRATING FORCES." CEAUSESCU APRIL 27 AGAIN STRESSED "CLOSE UNITY" BETWEEN ESTABLISHMENT AND CALLING FOR "RADICAL IMPROVEMENTS" TO BE DISCUSSED AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER (SEPAIR).

5. IN SOME CASES, RUMORED SOCIAL SCIENCE CHANGES WOULD SEEM TO BE AIMED AT BRINGING MORE INDEPENDENT RESEARCHERS UNDER CLOSER SUPERVISION -- E.G., INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS SECTION OF INSTITUTE OF POLITICAL SCIENCES WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE ALLOWED AUTONOMOUS IDENTITY AS MUCLEUS FOR NEW INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS INSTITUTE, WHICH LIBERALS WERE PROPOSING LAST YEAR, BUT WOULD BE ABSORBED BY STEFAN GHEORGHU PARTY ACADEMY.

6. IN ANY CASE, RIPPLES FROM MARCH PARTY PLENUM TOUCHING MIZIL ARE CLEARLY SPREADING MORE WIDELY THROUGH CULTURAL-IDEOLOGICAL-EDUCATIONAL DOMAIN, ALTHOUGH MANY FINAL DECISIONS NOT RPT NOT TAKEN OR MADE PUBLIC AS YET.
BARNES

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